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PIG CROP REPORT

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

March 1957

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The intended number of sows for farrowing in the spring of 1957 (December through May) for 9 of the Corn Belt States is estimated at 5,375,000 head according to the Crop Reporting Board. The number of sows farrowing this spring is about the same as last year's total of 5,362,000 head for the 9 States (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, South Dakota, and Kansas). The March survey indicates an increase of 1 percent or 63,000 head from the farrowing intentions reported for these States in December of 1956. Farmers in two of the States, Ohio and Kansas, report smaller sow numbers for 1957 spring farrow than a year earlier, while those in the other 7 States report no change or small increases running up to a maximum of 3 percent in Wisconsin and South Dakota. The 9 States included in this report accounted for 71 percent of the United States spring pig crop in 1956.

Sows farrowed during December, January, and February totaled 1,586,000 head, slightly less than the 1,594,000 head farrowed during the same 3 months a year earlier. The intentions to farrow reported for these 9 States in December 1956 totaled 1,595,000 sows. Farmers' reports indicate that the number of sows farrowed in December was up from a year earlier, while January and February farrowings were down. This year's December through February sows farrowed represent about 30 percent of the total expected spring sow numbers (December through May) which is the same percentage as last year, but is nearly double the 10-year average of 16 percent.

Sows bred and intended for farrow in March, April, and May this year totaled 3,789,000 head, about 1 percent above the 3,768,000 head farrowed in 1956, but 72,000 head or 2 percent above the intentions reported in December. Reported breeding intentions indicate 1,912,000 sows to farrow during the 1957 summer quarter (June, July, and August) in the 9 States covered by this survey. This is 3 percent or 61,000 head above 1956. Three States -- Ohio, Iowa, and Missouri -- show no change from 1956. The other 6 States show increases over last year, ranging up to a high of 8 percent in Wisconsin and Kansas.

The number of all hogs and pigs on farms March 1, 1957, in the 9 States totaled 34.4 million head, slightly higher than the 34.3 million head a year earlier. Hogs and pigs 6 months old or over, at 11.6 million head, were 2 percent below the 11.9 million head on March 1, 1956. The current number of hogs and pigs under 6 months of age was 2 percent more than for last March 1, with the increase shared by both the under-3-month and the 3-to-6 months age groups. The March 1957 inventory of pigs under 3 months of age, at 11.3 million head,

Continued on page 4

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.
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Agricultural Marketing Service
Crop Reporting Board

Sows farrowing by quarters, Selected Corn Belt States

State	December through February 1/				March through May			
	Average 1946-55	1956	1957	1957 as % of 1956	Average 1946-55	1956	1957 2/	1957 as % of 1956
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
Ohio...	109	157	137	87	288	233	222	95
Ind....	191	293	310	106	376	302	297	98
Ill....	152	280	288	103	766	650	642	99
Wis....	44	89	84	94	276	206	220	107
Minn...	56	119	112	94	596	429	447	104
Iowa...	190	391	383	98	1,732	1,310	1,318	101
Mo.....	126	193	204	106	356	320	319	100
S.Dak..	14	25	28	112	321	240	245	102
Kans...	36	47	40	85	125	78	79	101
Total 9 States	918	1,594	1,586	99	4,835	3,768	3,789	101

State	December through May Total 1/				June through August			
	Average 1946-55	1956	1957 3/	1957 as % of 1956	Average 1946-55	1956	1957 2/	1957 as % of 1956
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
Ohio...	397	390	359	92	148	155	155	100
Ind....	567	595	607	102	287	326	349	107
Ill....	918	930	930	100	260	331	351	106
Wis....	320	295	304	103	88	100	108	108
Minn...	653	548	559	102	150	162	167	103
Iowa...	1,922	1,701	1,701	100	451	505	505	100
Mo.....	482	513	523	102	175	198	198	100
S.Dak..	335	265	273	103	33	38	40	105
Kans...	161	125	119	95	40	36	39	108
Total 9 States	5,753	5,362	5,375	100	1,633	1,851	1,912	103

1/ December preceding year

2/ Number indicated by breeding intentions reports.

3/ Sum of December through February farrowings and March through May intentions to farrow.

Hogs and pigs: Number on farms by classes March 1, Selected Corn Belt States

State	Under 3 months				3 to 6 months			
	1955	1956	1957	1957 as % of 1956	1955	1956	1957	1957 as % of 1956
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
Ohio...	1/	1,045	980	94	1/	1,125	1,060	94
Ind....	2,015	2,080	2,270	109	1,180	1,285	1,426	111
Ill....	1,720	1,940	2,025	104	1,990	2,263	2,400	106
Wis....	635	610	595	98	495	620	580	94
Minn...	880	810	790	98	730	870	880	101
Iowa...	2,770	2,800	2,780	99	2,670	3,120	3,120	100
Mo.....	1/	1,330	1,440	108	1/	1,500	1,510	101
S.Dak..	1/	160	190	119	1/	220	210	95
Kans...	285	315	274	87	263	350	310	89
Total 6 States	8,305	8,555	8,734	102	7,328	8,508	8,716	102
Total 9 States	1/	11,090	11,344	102	1/	11,353	11,496	101

1/Not available.

State	Total under 6 months				6 months and older				All hogs and pigs			
	1955	1956	1957	1957 as % of 1956	1955	1956	1957	1957 as % of 1956	1955	1956	1957	1957 as % of 1956
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
Ohio...	1/	2,170	2,040	94	1/	695	653	94	1/	2,865	2,693	94
Ind....	3,195	3,365	3,696	110	1,321	1,286	1,234	96	4,516	4,651	4,930	106
Ill....	3,710	4,203	4,425	105	2,114	2,145	2,050	96	5,824	6,348	6,475	102
Wis....	1,130	1,230	1,175	96	677	559	650	116	1,807	1,789	1,825	102
Minn...	1,610	1,680	1,670	99	1,570	1,341	1,291	96	3,180	3,021	2,961	98
Iowa...	5,440	5,920	5,900	100	4,504	4,024	3,845	96	9,944	9,944	9,745	98
Mo.....	1/	2,830	2,950	104	1/	1,020	1,016	100	1/	3,850	3,966	103
S.Dak.	1/	380	400	105	1/	600	600	100	1/	980	1,000	102
Kans.	548	665	584	88	236	197	235	119	784	862	819	95
Total 6 States	15,633	17,063	17,450	102	10,422	9,552	9,305	97	26,055	26,615	26,755	101
Total 9 States	1/	22,443	22,840	102	1/	11,867	11,574	98	1/	34,310	34,414	100

1/ Not available.

Continued from page 1

was up 2 percent from the 11.1 million head for 1956. This compares with 1 percent decrease in the number of sows farrowed during December through February and reflects an increase in the number of pigs saved per litter. March 1, 1957, inventories of hogs and pigs 3 to 6 months old for the 9 States were placed at 11.5 million head or 1 percent above the 11.4 million for March 1, 1956. The number of hogs and pigs under 6 months of age on March 1, 1957, was 66 percent of the total for all hogs and pigs compared with 65 percent for the preceding year.

The report for these 9 States is made possible by matching funds provided jointly by State agencies and the United States Department of Agriculture under provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
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